



LIONS NON- DENOMINATIONAL

**Invocations – Prayers – Blessings &
Inspirational Quotes**



**In Memory of:
William “Van” VanLandingham
MD4-A2 District Governor
2019-2020**

JUNE 26, 2020
2019-2020 MD4 COUNCIL OF GOVERNORS

Preface

This booklet of invocations, prayers, blessings and inspirational quotes is dedicated to the memory of District Governor William "Van" VanLandingham.

Van and I became friends as we walked the path of governorship. Sharing rides to and from Council of Governor meetings deepened those bonds. Planning and discussing strategies on phone calls and in emails brought both of us strength, ideas, and the courage to step outside "the box".

Van and I had planned to put together a booklet of non-denominational prayers and invocations for Lions as a gift to our Council of Governors. Unfortunately we had just started on the project when Van became ill. As a tribute to Van and all he brought to our Council of Governors it is my hope that this booklet will honor his memory and desire to strengthen Lions Clubs International use of non-denominational invocations, prayers and blessings.

Yours in Service

Claudia Miller
4-A1 District Governor

Invocations – Prayers – Blessings

Lions Clubs International is a non-discriminatory, non-political, and non-denomination organization.

Lions is comprised of members from a wide range of religious faiths, and for that reason Lions Clubs International recommends and urges non-denominational meeting invocations, prayers and blessings that give no referral to beliefs of specific religions.

The following are examples of invocations, prayers, and blessings that may be used as is or modified to your liking. Sources are acknowledged when known.

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GENERAL

Please Be reverent as you choose,

Let us express our gratitude:

For the opportunity to serve Lions Club International and MD4 and its mission

For the gifts that we have that enable us to make a difference in the lives of those we serve

For the chance to do something special and meaningful with our lives

Help us to embrace the challenge and responsibility we have as leaders

Guide us to lead with integrity and common sense

Give us the wisdom to make intelligent decisions

Give us the courage to make tough decisions

Give us the character to make right decisions

Help us to always be welcoming, inclusive and open because of our vision and mission to serve.

Amen

Please Be Reverent As You Choose,

In a world where many are lonely

We give thanks for friendship and community;

In a world where many are despairing

We give thanks for hope;

In a world that many find meaningless

We give thanks for faith;

In a world where many are hungry

We give thanks for this food;

In a world full of needs;

We give thanks for Lions and the opportunity to serve.

Amen.

Please Be Reverent As You Choose,

We are blessed with friends and laughter and fun

With rain that's as soft as the light from the sun ---

We are blessed with stars to brighten each night

Help us to know wrong from right --

Give us a heart that is always grateful.

Amen.

Please Be Reverent As You Choose,

People are often unreasonable and self-centered.
Forgive them anyway.
If you are kind, people may accuse you of ulterior motives.
Be kind anyway.
If you are honest, people may cheat you.
Be honest anyway.
If you find happiness, people may be jealous.
Be happy anyway.
The good you do today may be forgotten tomorrow.
Do good anyway.
Give the world the best you have and it may never be enough. Give your best anyway.
For you see, in the end, it is between you and *your higher power*.
It was never between you and them anyway." Amen.

(Mother Theresa)

Please Be Reverent As You Choose,

May all gathered here be blessed.
May our courage match our convictions,
And our integrity match our hopes.
May our faith bring us closer to each other.
May our meeting with past and present
Bring blessing for the future.
Amen.

Please Be Reverent As You Choose,

We ask for the blessing of each person gathered with us today.
We are committed to be a real service organization to help humankind.
May each of us in our daily routine come to know the joy of caring and sharing with others not as fortunate.
May our motto "We Serve" become for each of us a life in service. Amen

Please Be Reverent As You Choose,

Bless this gathering of fellow Lions today. Please help us to see those in need and give us the strength and wisdom to serve our community as we should. Help us to lift the burdens of others while we maintain the dignity of humankind. Soften our hearts to be sensitive and loving as we serve together as Lions. Amen.

Please Be Reverent As You Choose,

Being in Lions allows us to serve others.
Help us to serve humbly and willingly as we focus on the needs of our community.
Thank you for our gifts and help us to use them wisely. Amen.

Please Be Reverent As You Choose,

We ask for blessings upon this meeting and people of goodwill everywhere.
May we prove ourselves worthy citizens of our country.
Devoted to truth, sincere in fellowship, and given to service.
Let us stand firm when the fight is hard.
Give us strength sufficient for this day.
Make us as big as our problems and to stay bigger than our responsibilities.
Help us to live up to our capabilities. Amen.

Please Be Reverent As You Choose,

Thank you for our Lions meeting. For everyone that puts something into it, and everyone that gets something out of it. We ask your blessings on this meeting and all who grace it with their presence. Help us to be gentle with ourselves and one another, not expecting more than we can, or they can produce. We know there is so much good in the worst of us and so much bad in the best of us that it hardly behooves any of us to talk about the rest of us. Be with us this day and always by strengthening our belief in the ultimate triumph of truth and right. Amen

Please Be Reverent As You Choose,

We ask your blessing on this meeting and upon our being together. We enjoy the fellowship we find here. Help us to enjoy doing good, and supporting and encouraging one another. Bless us with the pure pleasure of service and the joy of giving. Amen

Please Be Reverent As You Choose,

We honestly believe the purpose of each life is to make a difference that we lived at all.
We also are aware buildings don't build themselves, lessons don't learn themselves, classes don't teach themselves, words don't memorize themselves, food doesn't prepare itself, skills don't develop themselves, and projects don't plan themselves.

Someone has to do everything that is done, make everything that is made, and think everything that is thought.

We know the next move is up to us, therefore, we pray for guidance in our thoughts, intentions and actions. Amen

Please Be Reverent As You Choose,

Help us to understand others, to learn to cooperate with our neighbors and friends, and to find enjoyment in study, work and play.

Give us the wisdom to realize that our purpose here involves honesty, charity, and concern for all humankind.

Teach us to respect the beliefs of others and to promote freedom of thought and expression.

We pray for the day when the world is free from all hatred, racism and bigotry; but until that day, help us to work together in our own community to make our home peaceful and welcoming place for all.

Guard and protect our land, soldiers and citizens from all danger. Help us to live the words that we pray. Amen.

Please Be Reverent As You Choose,

As we gather together as Lions and friends,

We pray that our actions may reflect our desire to serve

Clothe our lives with charity.

Deepen our lives with loyalty.

Hallow our lives with integrity.

Help us to live our lives so that we may enhance the future of those whose lives we touch.

Guide us in service. Amen

Please Be Reverent As You Choose,

There are so many things that we take for granted.

Let us not ignore them today.

Help us remember that life is a gift.

That our health is a blessing, that today is a new day filled with awesome potential, and that we have the capacity to bring something wholly new and unique and good into this world.

Help us to remember to be kind and patient with the people who love us and to those with whom we work and interact each day.

Teach us to see all the beauty that we so often ignore, and to listen to the silent longing of our own souls.

Help us to remember to be worthy instruments of service, Amen.

Please Be Reverent As You Choose,

As we join together as Lions and friends, we acknowledge our many blessings in life. Although we sometimes have problems with work, we are thankful we are working and that we have the opportunity to achieve. Although we sometimes are troubled with concerns about our home and families, we are grateful that we are blessed with homes and families. Although we sometimes complain of aches and pains, we are appreciative of our health and of our capacity to heal. Help us to live so that we may enhance the future of those whose lives we touch.

Amen.

Please Be Reverent As You Choose,

We gather together as friends in the spirit of Lions fellowship and service. Bless all who are in our prayers,
And all who should be in our thoughts.
To the sick and suffering, send hope;
To the forgotten and the lonely, send love;
To the confused and distressed, send light;
To the weary and the wronged, send renewed strength;
To the pursuers of justice, send wisdom and faith;
To the seekers of peace, send unwavering resolve;
To those assembled in this room and our loved ones,
Send tranquility and joy;
And to the world, send blessings of peace.
Guide us in our service.
Amen.

MEETINGS

Please be reverent as you choose,

Thank You for every seat that has been filled here, today. For each mind and heart that fills the presence of this room. As we set forth on our agenda today we have an idea, a vision, hints, and thoughts. We have talents, abilities, and time to work. Let us move forward together recognizing that even mistakes and missteps can be used for good. Set us free from comparison in order to work together efficiently and effectively. Bless this meeting today, all those present, as well as the lives of those we will encounter afterward. Ready us to make every moment count. Amen.

Please be reverent as you choose,

May today there be peace within each of us.
May everyone trust that each of us are exactly where we are meant to be.
May we remember the infinite possibilities that we each bring to the tasks before us.
May we listen carefully and speak with kindness and clarity.
May we share freely our wisdom and talents as we work together to share our mission to serve. Amen

Please Be Reverent As You Choose,

We ask for guidance, wisdom, and support as we begin this meeting. Help us to engage in meaningful discussion; allow us to grow closer as a group and nurture the bonds of community. Fill us with grace and kindness as we make decisions that might affect Lions, our Districts, our Clubs and the communities and people we serve. And remind us that all that we do here today, all that we accomplish, is for the service of humanity as "We Serve" as Lions. Amen.

Please Be Reverent As You Choose,

We seek blessings on the tasks before us.
Bless our efforts with clear insight,
our deliberations with wisdom,
our work, with clarity and accuracy,
and our decisions with impartiality. Amen

Please Be Reverent As You Choose,

We gather to make decisions for our Multiple, Districts, Clubs, Lions and communities. May we use only our best skills and judgment keeping ourselves impartial and neutral as we consider the merits and pitfalls of each matter that is placed before us today. May we act with kindness and a Lion's heart of service. Amen

Please Be Reverent As You Choose,

We gather together here today
intent on doing good work.
We seek to represent fairly and well,
those who have given us this task.
May our efforts be blessed with insight,
guided by understanding and wisdom.
We seek to serve with respect for all.
May our personal faiths give us strength
to act honestly and well in all matters before us. Amen.

Please Be Reverent As You Choose,

We meet to serve our community,
to use our resources wisely and well,
to represent all members of our community fairly,
to make decisions that promote the common good.
We recognize our responsibility to the past and the future,
and the rights and needs of both individuals and community.
As trusted servants, we seek blessings on our deliberations,
and on our efforts here today, May we act wisely and well. Amen.

Please Be Reverent As You Choose,

Help us look to the past with gratitude and to the future with hope. We remember this day those who have gone before us here, who labored not for themselves alone but with a vision of building for the future a world better than they had known. Inspire in us also a like vision, that we too may labor for things beyond ourselves, that our lives may be dedicated to high purposes and grand horizons. Make us unafraid of hopes and dreams; release us from cynicism and despair. Teach us to be realistic about our limitations but never to lose hope in our potential to transcend them. Amen.

Please Be Reverent As You Choose,

We meet to serve our community, to use our resources wisely and well, to represent all members of our community fairly, to make decisions that promote the common good. We recognize our responsibility to the past and the future, and the rights and needs of both individuals and community. As Lions and trusted servants, we seek blessings on our deliberations, and on our efforts here today, May we act wisely and well. Amen

SPECIAL FOCUS

Please be reverent as you choose,

Please be with us in every transition and change.

As we enter into this new Lion's year with excitement and even some anxiety,

We thank you for the gifts, talents and skills with which you have blessed us.

We thank you for the experiences that have brought us to this moment.

We thank you for the work of others that gives breadth and depth to our own work.

Be with us as we move forward, supporting one another as Lion Leaders in service. Amen

Please Be reverent as you choose,

Leadership is hard to define.

Let us be the ones to define it with justice.

Leadership is like a handful of water.

Let us share it with those who thirst.

Leadership is not about watching and correcting.

Let us remember it is about listening and connecting.

Leadership is not about telling people what to do.

Let us find out what people want.

Leadership is less about the love of power and more about the power of love

As we undertake the role of leader let us be the servant leader

In leading let us never fail to follow.

In loving let us never fail.

Amen

Please Be Reverent As You Choose,

As we gather for the last day of our convention, help us to remember how fortunate we are to be able to serve our brothers and sisters around the world through Lions and our amazing Foundation.

That we have abundance, help us to give of our time, talents, and treasures.

Help us to work together on initiatives, projects, accomplishing amazing successes.

Inspire our efforts to serve. Guide us in our service. Bless those around the world touched by our works.

Amen.

Please Be Reverent As You Choose,

As those entrusted with leading this amazing Multiple District 4, please help each of us become *Leaders in Balance* and realize the importance and impact of our way of thinking and our way of being, because leaders are built from the inside out:

Help us approach leadership as a relationship not just a position...listening, reflective, and intentional;

Help us understand that each of us embodies Lions Clubs International setting the tone for what is done and valued... And that each of us are focused on our purpose to serve

Help us appreciate how collaboration with purpose can enable us to reach better decisions and to execute our decisions better;

Help us think "outside the box", and to share power and authority, to value the diversity of people, ideas and ways of thinking...

Finally help us see that the challenge of leading change is not about leadership in control, but leadership in balance;

Amen

Please Be Reverent As You Choose,

It is good to recognize how different we are.

Our talents, our dreams, our backgrounds, our occupations.

And it is good to know that when each of us was created

No one is exactly like anyone else.

Even our thumbprint and our voice track tell us how unique we are. We are thankful for these differences and mobilize them for the good of Lions and our community. In our differences we can think the same thoughts and move together toward a common goal. Bless us as we meet together. We are thankful for our individuality and also for our common bond of Lions.

Amen.

Please Be Reverent As You Choose,

Today, may we be open to others' ideas and beliefs, and respectful of our differences. May we grow in understanding of ourselves and others. May we be patient and kind as we talk. May we find common ground and shared purpose as we seek to strengthen MD4, our Districts and Clubs. May we see clearly what unites us as Lions – the desire to serve. Amen.

Please Be Reverent As You Choose,

We come today asking for guidance, wisdom, and support as we begin this Council of Governors meeting. Help us to engage in meaningful discussion; allow us to grow closer as a group and nurture the bonds of community. Fill us with your grace as we make decisions affecting Lions, our communities and our service around the world. Amen.

MEALS

Will you please bow your heads with me,

Let us pray silently together, each one of us, according to our individual beliefs.

Let us offer thanks for our food and the blessings of fellowship around us. Let us be a source of hope for those in need, and contentment for those who are lonely.

Let us give gratitude for our opportunity to serve Lions Clubs International, MD4, our Districts and Clubs.

Let the feelings of love, kindness, and a well directed, yet gentle spirit always be reflected in our actions. Amen

Please Be Reverent As You Choose,

For what we are about to receive let us be truly thankful to those who planted the crops, cultivated the fields, and gathered the harvest.

For what we are about to receive let us be truly thankful to those who prepared and served it.

In this evening of celebration let us remember too those who have no festivity, who cannot share this plenty, and who are hungry, sick and cold. In sharing in this meal let us be truly thankful for the good things we have, for the warm hospitality, for this good company and our opportunity to serve. Amen

Will You Please Bow Your Head With Me.

Let us pray silently together, each of us according to our individual beliefs.

Let us offer thanks for our food, blessings for one another and for absent friends

Let us be a source of hope for those in need, and contentment for those who are lonely.

Let us give gratitude for our opportunity to serve as Lions. Let the feelings of love, kindness, and yet gentle spirit always be reflected in our actions.

Amen

Please Be Reverent As You Choose,

We thank You for this fine meal, and for our friends in Lions. Keep us mindful that we are related, as individuals and as nations, and that the struggles of our brothers and sisters across the globe and in our communities belong to us all. Inspire us, as we renew our commitment to serve. Amen

Please Be Reverent As You Choose,

We give our sincere thanks *for friends*, food, fun and fellowship, especially the fellowship of our Lions family.

May this meal nourish our bodies in preparation for the challenges that are ours in Lions.

Keep us always mindful of the needs of others and attuned to our calling to serve.

Amen

Let us be reverent:

We are gathered here today in friendship and fellowship.

It is good to recognize how different we are in our talents, our dreams, our backgrounds, and our occupations.

Thank You for our individuality and for our common bond as Lions. Through our differences and desire to serve, we can move toward common goals.

Help us look forward with vision and maintain an abundant sense of humor.

Please bless this food we are about to share, those who prepared it, those who serve it, and those who have worked to make today the special occasion that it is. For all of this we give thanks.

Amen.

Please Be Reverent As You Choose,

For the spirit of service that brought us to Lions,

For the grace of this day,

For the fellowship which draws us together,

For the blessing of food and drink we share,

For these and all our blessings we thank you. Amen

Please Be Reverent As You Choose,

With our friends beside us, and no person beneath us,

With the bonds of Lions between us, and our worries behind us,

With our goals before us, and no task beyond us,

With a thirst for knowledge, and our dream for a better world,

We are thankful for our Lions friends and the meal we are about to share.

Amen.

Please Be Reverent As You Choose,

For the spirit of service that brought us to Lions,
For the grace of this day,
For the fellowship which draws us together,
For the blessing of food and drink we share,
For these and all our blessings we thank you.

Will you please bow your heads.

Let us pray silently together, each one of us, according to our individual beliefs.
Let us offer thanks for our food and the blessings of fellowship around us.
Let us be a source of hope for those in need, and contentment for those who are lonely.
Let us give gratitude for our opportunity to serve as Lions.
Let the feelings of love, kindness, and spirit of service always be reflected in our actions.

Please Be Reverent As You Choose,

For friends, food, fun and the fellowship of Lions we give our thanks today.
As we bless this meal, let us always be mindful of the amazing gifts that life has given each of us. Let these thoughts guide our lives today:
"Work like you don't need the money.
Love like you've never been hurt.
Sing like nobody's listening.
Dance like nobody's watching.
Live like it's heaven on earth. "
Mark Twain

Please Be Reverent As You Choose,

Bless this food we are about to eat and may it be our nourishment to continue our Lions service. May our motivation always be the work of Lions bringing love, peace and harmony to all. Amen.

Please Be Reverent As You Choose,

Thank for good food, good friends, and Lions. We thank you for the ideal of service. Bless our being together and our efforts as we seek to serve. Broaden our shoulders and brace our backs for the caring of our responsibilities. Help us to serve with dignity and integrity. Thank you for the opportunity to serve. Amen

Please Be Reverent As You Choose,

We thank you for the food that is before us and for our many blessings. We are thankful today for the privilege of being here among friends, for the opportunity to share ideas and to serve our community. Amen

Please Be Reverent As You Choose,

Let us be mindful of the sanctity of life and of the thread that binds all humanity.

Help us to remember that we are indeed our brothers' keepers, and that if our lives are to have meaning, we must be worthy instruments in the improvement of this world.

As we join together to share this food and fellowship, let us be thankful for the blessings in life, the blessings of friendship and love, of family and community and our journey as Lions. Amen.

Please Be Reverent As You Choose,

We thank you for the food that is before us and for your many blessings. We thank you for the privilege of belonging to this organization of Lions, for the fellowship and support from our friends here this evening, for the opportunity to share ideas, but mostly for the opportunity to serve.

We appreciate how blessed we truly are – with more than simply the necessities of life, with prosperity, with family, with friendship.

As we enjoy the support within the "family of Lions", help us to reach out to those families less fortunate than us within our own community and around the world.

As we appreciate our health, give us the means through our work with the Lions Clubs International Foundation to help cure the ills of the world. As we enjoy this meal together, inspire us to work to rid the world of hunger.

Inspire us to serve so that there may truly be peace and understanding throughout the world. Amen.

MEMORIALS/CELEBRATION OF LIFE

Please Be Reverent As You Choose,

We thank you for enabling us to gather here today so that we can celebrate a life well-lived. May our memories bring comfort to every one of us so that we can remember, support and care for each other in this time of loss.

Please Be Reverent As You Choose,

We are gathered here today as friends and family of our loved one who departed from this world. It is not easy for us to stand here and talk about our friend. As we honor _____ let us remember his/her life of service as a Lion.

Peace of Mind Prayer

There is a season and time for everything in this world. Today we celebrate the life of _____. Even though we are finding it hard to accept his/her passing, give us the strength to share the beautiful moments that we shared and celebrate his/her service to others. Amen.

The Dash

by *Linda Ellis*

I read of a man who stood to speak at a funeral
of a friend. He referred to the dates on the tombstone from the
beginning...to the end.

He noted that first came the date of birth and spoke of the
following date with tears, but he said what
mattered most of all was the dash between those years.

For that dash represents all the time they spent alive on earth
and now only those who loved them know what that little line is
worth.

For it matters not, how much we own, the cars... the
house...the cash. What matters is how we live and love and
how we spend our dash.

So think about this long and hard; are there things
You'd like to change? For you never know how much time is left
that can still be rearranged.

To be less quick to anger and show appreciation more and love
the people in our lives
like we've never loved before.

If we treat each other with respect and more often wear a smile...
remembering that this special dash might
only last a little while.

So when your eulogy is being read, with your life's actions to rehash...
would you be proud of the things
they say about how you lived your dash?

Their service to mankind will endure forever

We are here today to pay our respects to our sister and brother Lions.

When a loved one or a friend passes, we feel a profound sense of loss, an emptiness we know can never again be filled. We are saddened, and we grieve for the departed, but we are heartened by the cherished memories they leave — that in knowing them we may become better human beings ourselves.

So it is with our fellow Lions who have passed from us. We mourn them and will miss them dearly, but they have left something very precious behind; their legacy of unswerving commitment to the ideals of Lionism, unselfish service to people in need and loyal and devoted fellowship with all other members of the Lions family

The memory of these Lions who walked with us in service, fills us with an inner contentment, bringing about a peace which affects every sector of our lives. They have also provided us with a challenge to continue our high standards and dedication to the needs of others.

Through their commitment, courage and perseverance they have shown us the way. Let us continue along this noble path.

The Lions whom we pay homage today, have exemplified the humanitarian ideals of Lionism. They gave unselfishly on behalf of others and what they achieved shall forever stand as personal monuments to their integrity and selfless dedication to the well being of humanity.



REMEMBER ME

Don't remember me with sadness,
Don't remember me with tears,
Remember all the laughter,
We've shared throughout the years.

Now I am contented
That my life it was worthwhile,
Knowing that I passed along the way
I made somebody smile.

When you are walking down the street

And you've got me on your mind,
I'm walking in your footsteps
Only half a step behind.

So please don't be unhappy
Just because I'm out of sight,
Remember that I'm with you
Each morning, noon and night.

Quotes

"Servant-leadership is all about making the goals clear and then rolling your sleeves up and doing whatever it takes to help people win. In that situation, they don't work for you, you work for them." – **Ken Blanchard**

"The key to successful leadership today is influence, not authority."
-**Ken Blanchard**

"We must be silent before we can listen. We must listen before we can learn. We must learn before we can prepare. We must prepare before we can serve. We must serve before we can lead." – **William Arthur Ward**

"Servant-leadership is more than a concept, it is a fact. Any great leader, by which I also mean an ethical leader of any group, will see herself or himself as a servant of that group and will act accordingly." – **M. Scott Peck**

"True leaders understand that leadership is not about them but about those they serve. It is not about exalting themselves but about lifting others up."
– **Sheri L. Dew**

"I don't want my life to be defined by what is etched on a tombstone. I want it to be defined by what is etched in the lives and hearts of those I've touched." – **Steve Maraboli**

"Relationships are never about power, and one way to avoid the will to power is to choose to limit oneself—to serve." – **Wm. Paul Young**

"Not everybody can be famous. But everybody can be great, because greatness is determined by service. You don't have to have a college degree to serve. You don't have to make your subject and verb agree to serve. You don't have to know about Plato or Aristotle to serve. You don't have to know Einstein's theory of relativity to serve. You don't have to know the second theory of thermodynamics in physics to serve. You only need a heart full of grace and a soul generated by love." – **Martin Luther King, Jr.**

"Human salvation lies in the hands of the creatively maladjusted."
-**Martin Luther King Jr.**

A genuine leader is not a searcher for consensus, but a molder of consensus. **Martin Luther King Jr**

Everyone can be great because everyone can serve. -**Martin Luther King Jr**

"The pessimist complains about the wind. The optimist expects it to change. The leader adjusts the sails."

-John Maxwell

"The single biggest way to impact an organization is to focus on leadership development. There is almost no limit to the potential of an organization that recruits good people, raises them up as leaders and continually develops them."

-John Maxwell

"The single biggest way to impact an organization is to focus on leadership development. There is almost no limit to the potential of an organization that recruits good people, raises them up as leaders and continually develops them."

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"The pessimist complains about the wind. The optimist expects it to change. The leader adjusts the sails."

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"Tend to the people, and they will tend to the business." **-John Maxwell**

"A leader is one who knows the way, goes the way, and shows the way."

- John Maxwell

"Leaders instill in their people a hope for success and a belief in themselves. Positive leaders empower people to accomplish their goals." **-Unknown**

"The true mark of a leader is the willingness to stick with a bold course of action — an unconventional business strategy, a unique product-development roadmap, a controversial marketing campaign — even as the rest of the world wonders why you're not marching in step with the status quo. In other words, real leaders are happy to zig while others zag. They understand that in an era of hyper-competition and non-stop disruption, the only way to stand out from the crowd is to stand for something special."

-Bill Taylor, from article "Do You Pass the Leadership Test?"

We are all ordinary. We are all boring. We are all spectacular. We are all shy. We are all bold. We are all heroes. We are all helpers. It just depends on the day. **-Brad Meltzer**

"Our ability to reach unity in diversity will be the beauty and the test of our civilization." **-Mahatma Gandhi**

"The best way to find yourself is to lose yourself in service of others."

- Mahatma Gandhi

"This is the power of gathering – It inspires us – delightfully – To be more hopeful, more joyful, more thoughtful. In a word more alive." -**Alice Waters**

"When we do the best that we can, we never know what miracle is wrought in our life, or in the life of another." - **Helen Keller**

Only a life lived for others is worth living. -**Albert Einstein**

The only ones among you who will be really happy are those who will have sought and found how to serve. -**Albert Schweitzer**

"If your actions inspire others to dream more, learn more, do more and become more, you are a leader." -**John Quincy Adams**

"Innovation distinguishes between a leader and a follower." -**Steve Jobs, Apple co-founder**

"My job is not to be easy on people. My job is to take these great people we have and to push them and make them even better." -**Steve Jobs**

"Do not follow where the path may lead. Go instead where there is no path and leave a trail." -**Ralph Waldo Emerson**

"Leaders instill in their people a hope for success and a belief in themselves. Positive leaders empower people to accomplish their goals." -**Unknown**

"The very essence of leadership is that you have to have vision. You can't blow an uncertain trumpet." -**Theodore M. Hesburgh**

"Leadership and learning are indispensable to each other."
-**John F. Kennedy**

"A good objective of leadership is to help those who are doing poorly to do well and to help those who are doing well to do even better."
-**Jim Rohn**

"The challenge of leadership is to be strong, but not rude; be kind, but not weak; be bold, but not bully; be thoughtful, but not lazy; be humble, but not timid; be proud, but not arrogant; have humor, but without folly." -**Jim Rohn**

"True Leadership stems from individuality that is honestly and sometimes imperfectly expressed...Leaders should strive for authenticity over perfection." -**Sheryl Sandberg**

"Leadership is lonely ... I'm not going to be afraid of confrontation to get us to where we need to go. There's a big misconception where people thinking winning or success comes from everybody putting their arms around each other and singing kumbaya and patting them on the back when they mess up, and that's just not reality. If you are going to be a leader, you are not going to please everybody. You have to hold people accountable. Even if you have that moment of being uncomfortable." **-Kobe Bryant, NBA All-Star**

"A leader is best when people barely know he exists, when his work is done, his aim fulfilled, they will say: we did it ourselves." **-Lao Tzu**

"Great acts are made up of small deeds." - **Lao Tzu**

"Your job as a leaders is to stay as close in touch as possible with those closest to the action." **-Kat Cole**

"I believe in a quiet, strong, and grounded leadership. I think some of the best leaders are those whose work is widely known and respected but who, themselves, are relatively unknown." **-Rachael Chong**

"Leadership is the capacity to translate vision into reality." **-Warren Bennis**

"A leader is a dealer in hope." **-Napoleon Bonaparte**

"Leadership is not a popularity contest; it's about leaving your ego at the door. The name of the game is to lead without a title." **-Robin S. Sharma**

"Without initiative, leaders are simply workers in leadership positions."
-Bo Bennett

"When your values are clear to you, making decisions becomes easier."
-Roy E. Disney

"Each person must live their life as a model for others." **-Rosa Parks**

"Memories of our lives, of our works and our deeds will continue in others."
- Rosa Parks

"How wonderful it is that nobody need wait a single moment before starting to improve the world." **-Anne Frank**

"We all live with the objective of being happy; our lives are all different and yet the same."
- Anne Frank

"Go forth and set the world on fire." **-St. Ignatius Loyola**

"The most effective way to do it, is to do it." **-Amelia Earhart**

"No man will make a great leader who wants to do it all himself, or to get all the credit for doing it." **-Andrew Carnegie**

"There are two ways of spreading light: to be the candle or the mirror that reflects it." **-Edith Wharton**

"The question isn't who's going to let me; it's who is going to stop me."
-Ayn Rand

"Outstanding leaders go out of their way to boost the self-esteem of their personnel. If people believe in themselves, it's amazing what they can accomplish." **-Sam Walton**

"Leadership is the art of giving people a platform for spreading ideas that work." **-Seth Godin**

"The first responsibility of a leader is to define reality. The last is to say thank you. In between, the leader is a servant." **-Max DePree**

"You manage things; you lead people." **- Admiral Grace Murray Hopper**

"I cannot change the world, but I can change a small part of it."
- Kay Florentino

"Ultimately, leadership is not about glorious crowning acts. It's about keeping your team focused on a goal and motivated to do their best to achieve it, especially when the stakes are high and the consequences really matter. It is about laying the groundwork for others; success, and then standing back and letting them shine."
- Chad Hadfield

"It is better to lead from behind and to put others in front, especially when you celebrate victory when nice things occur. You take the front line when there is danger. Then people will appreciate your leadership."
- Nelson Mandela

"Leadership is solving problems. The day soldiers stop bringing you their problems is the day you have stopped leading them. They have either lost confidence that you can help or concluded you do not care. Either case is a failure of leadership." **- Colin Powell**

"The accountability rests with me." - **Skip Prosser**

"A leader is someone who brings people together." - **George W. Bush**

"My humanity is bound up in yours, for we can only be human together."
- **Desmond Tutu**

"The point in history at which we stand is full of promise and danger. The world will either move forward toward unity and widely shared prosperity - or it will move apart."
- **Franklin D. Roosevelt**

"You don't get unity by ignoring the questions that have to be faced."
- **Jay Weatherill**

"A rare experience of a moment at daybreak, when something in nature seems to reveal all consciousness, cannot be explained at noon. Yet it is part of the day's unity." - **Charles Ives**

"Consider your own place in the universal oneness of which we are all a part, from which we all arise, and to which we all return." - **David Fontana**

"In union there is strength." - **Aesop**

"Build for your team a feeling of oneness, of dependence on one another and of strength to be derived by unity." - **Vince Lombardi**

"We are all so deeply interconnected; we have no option but to love all. Be kind and do good for any one and that will be reflected. The ripples of the

"Goodness is the only investment that never fails." - **Henry David Thoreau**

"As we serve others we are working on ourselves; every act, every word, every gesture of genuine compassion naturally nourishes our own hearts as well. It is not a question of who is healed first. When we attend to ourselves with compassion and mercy, more healing is made available for others. And when we serve others with an open and generous heart, great healing comes to us." - **Wayne Muller**

"Each of us has a fire in our hearts for something. It's our goal in life to find it and keep it lit." - **Mary Lou Retton**

"A life isn't significant except for its impact on others lives." - **Jackie Robinson**

"Know yourself. Never forget where you came from, and reach back to help someone else come forward too." - **Alpha Alexander**

"A candle loses nothing by lighting another candle." - **James Keller**

"Our lives no longer belong to us alone; they belong to all who need us desperately." - **Elie Wiesel**

"The manner of giving is worth more than the gift." - **Pierre Corneille**

"The way you get meaning into your life is to devote yourself to loving others, devote yourself to your community around you, and devote yourself to creating something that gives you purpose and meaning." - **Mitch Albom**

"What we do for ourselves dies with us. What we do for others and the world remains and is immortal." - **Albert Pine**

"We ourselves feel that what we are doing is just a drop in the ocean. But the ocean would be less because of that missing drop." - **Mother Teresa of Calcutta**

"People say, 'What is the sense of our small effort?' They cannot see that we must lay one brick at a time, take one step at a time. A pebble cast into a pond causes ripples that spread in all directions. Each one of our thoughts, words and deeds is like that. No one has a right to sit down and feel hopeless. There's too much work to do." - **Dorothy Day**

"We work to become, not to acquire." - **Elbert Hubbard**

"Service to others is the rent you pay for your room here on earth."
- **Muhammad Ali**

"When I use my strength in the service of my vision it makes no difference whether or not I am afraid." - **Audre Lorde**

"For anything worth having one must pay the price; and the price is always work, patience, love, self-sacrifice - no paper currency, no promises to pay, but the gold of real service." - **John Burroughs**

"Work is love made visible." - **Kahlil Gibran**

"A bone to the dog is not charity. Charity is the bone shared with the dog, when you are just as hungry as the dog." - **Jack London**